



Lebanese Republic
Ministry of Industry

Lebanese Standards Institution - LIBNOR

The Lebanese Standards Institution- LIBNOR

HONEY case study

18-10-2012

LIBNOR in brief

- *LIBNOR is a public institution attached to the Ministry of Industry*
- *Established in 1962 by a law .*

Main Mission:

- Issue, publish, and amend National Standards for all products and services (construction, chemical, electrical, agro food, mechanical, etc...)
- Grant the Lebanese Conformity Mark
- Represent Lebanon internationally in the field of standardization
- Training activities for the public and private sectors.

LIBNOR in brief

➤ **Issued ~2361 standards covering different sectors.**

Sector	Number of standards
Chemical	158
Construction material and building	713
Domestic & commercial equipments, entertainment, sports	25
Electrical engineering	414
Energy and heat transfer engineering	7
Fluid systems	17
Information technology	32
Metrology measurements	25
Packaging and distribution	14
Rubber and plastic	6
Paper technology	17

LIBNOR in brief

➤ Issued **~2361 standards** covering different sectors.

Sector	Number of standards
Food Technology	520
Mechanical systems	145
Petroleum	60
Health care technology	87
Sociology, Services, Company Organization and Management, Administration, Transport	16
Textile	15

LIBNOR in figures

Total number of Technical committees: **45 TCs**

- Issued **15 NL Conformity Marks** (cement products, Pipes, Medical Oxygen, Generators etc...)
- LIBNOR is a member of:
 - ✓ The International Organization for Standardization (**ISO**)
 - ✓ Codex Alimentarius (FAO/WHO) (**Codex Contact Point**)
 - ✓ The Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (**AIDMO**).
 - ✓ An affiliate member of the European Committee for Standardization (**CEN**)



How Standards are developed?

- Standards are discussed and prepared by technical committees formed by LIBNOR (Around 250 experts)
- Consensus based process.



The following public and private entities are represented:

- ✓ Ministries
- ✓ Manufacturers (ALI, Syndicates....)
- ✓ Importers (Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture)
- ✓ Laboratories
- ✓ Universities
- ✓ Consumer organizations, Syndicates, Associations....
- ✓ International organizations (WHO, UNIDO)
- ✓ Others

Lebanese Standards

Importance of National Standards

- ✓ **Facilitate exchange and trade of goods and services**
- ✓ **Consumer protection**
- ✓ **Environmental protection**

Standards in the real world



Improving food safety



Credit cards



Communication technologies



Safeguarding health

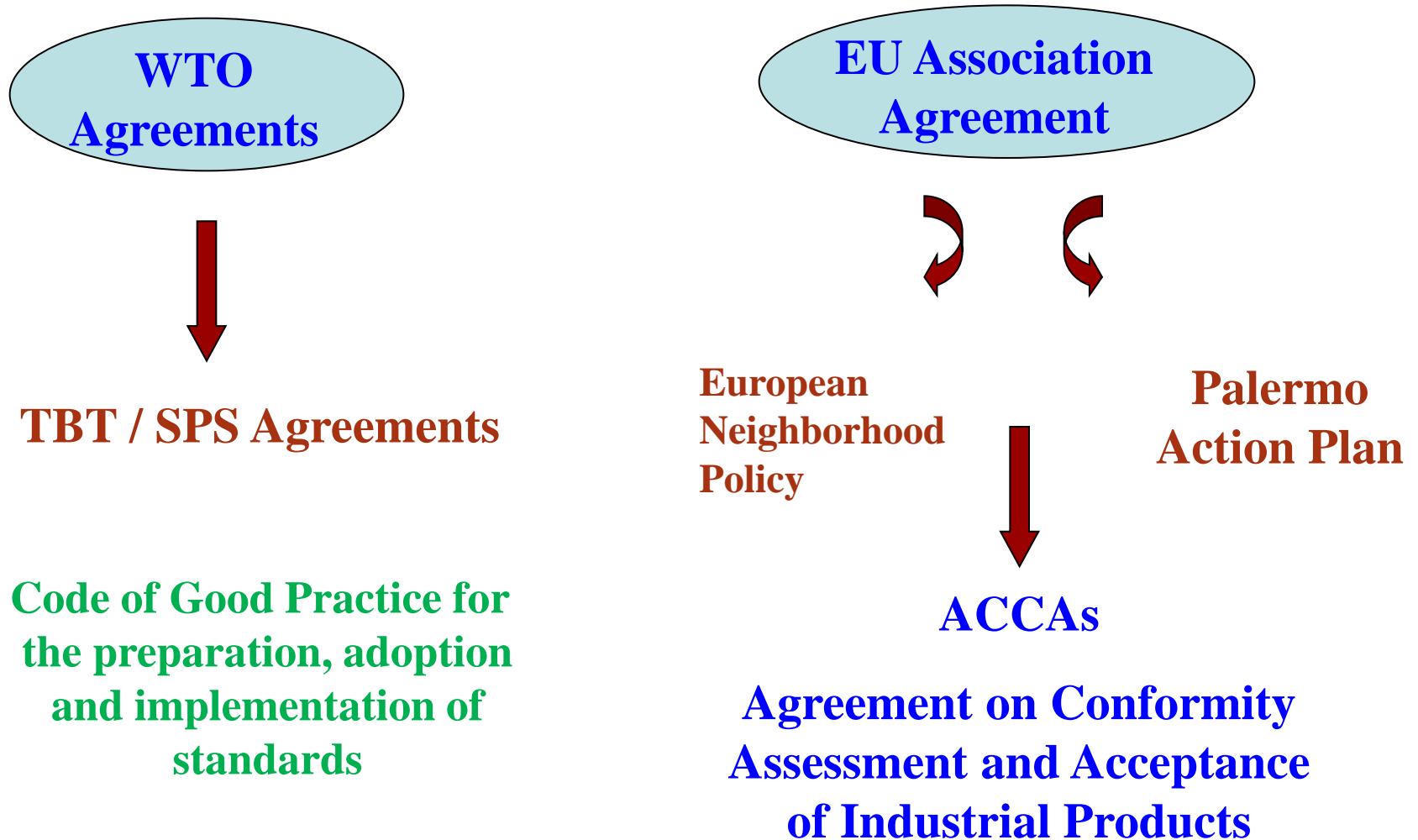


Safe transport



Ensuring human safety

Standardization and International Agreements





TBT / SPS Agreements

ENP



Palermo Action Plan

F. Where international standards exist, the standardizing body shall use them, or the relevant parts of them, as a basis for the standards it develops

G., the standardizing body shall, in an appropriate way, play a full part, within the limits of its resources, in the preparation by relevant international standardizing bodies of international standards

Article 48

The parties shall cooperate in:

- a) reducing divergences in standardization, metrology, quality control and conformity assessment.**
- d) strengthening the Lebanese institutions responsible for standardization, quality and intellectual, industrial and commercial property.**

Standardization and International Agreements

Food sector: adoption of
codex alimentarius standards

If deviation, it should be proved
scientifically

Otherwise, technical barrier to
trade

Honey case study

Update of honey standard:

Lebanese standard (2000): HMF on borders
20mg/kg while inside the market 40mg/kg

Codex standard: HMF for all kinds of honey:
40mg/kg

Honey case study

Update of honey standard:

Severe resistance from beekeepers

Quality of Lebanese honey is under question

RIA study to analyze the impact of this
modification in the standard

Honey case study

RIA study:

Qualitative cost benefit analysis

Difficulties: lack of updated data and conflict between data from different sources.

Honey case study

RIA study:

Total benefits:

Beneficiaries	Total Benefit- Short term	Total Benefit- Long term
Consumers	+2	
Government		+3
Import Companies	+1	+0.5
Retailers	+0.5	+0.25

Scale (1 -4) = representation of the scale of the benefit: 1 low – 4 high

Time (S/L) = start time for recouping the benefit: S - short term / L - long term

Honey case study

RIA study:

Total Costs:

Cost Bearers	Total Cost - Short term	Total Cost - Long term
Consumers	-	1
Government	1	-
Small Beekeepers	4	
Large Honey Producers	2	-
Honey Packagers and Retailers	1.5	-

Honey case study

RIA study:

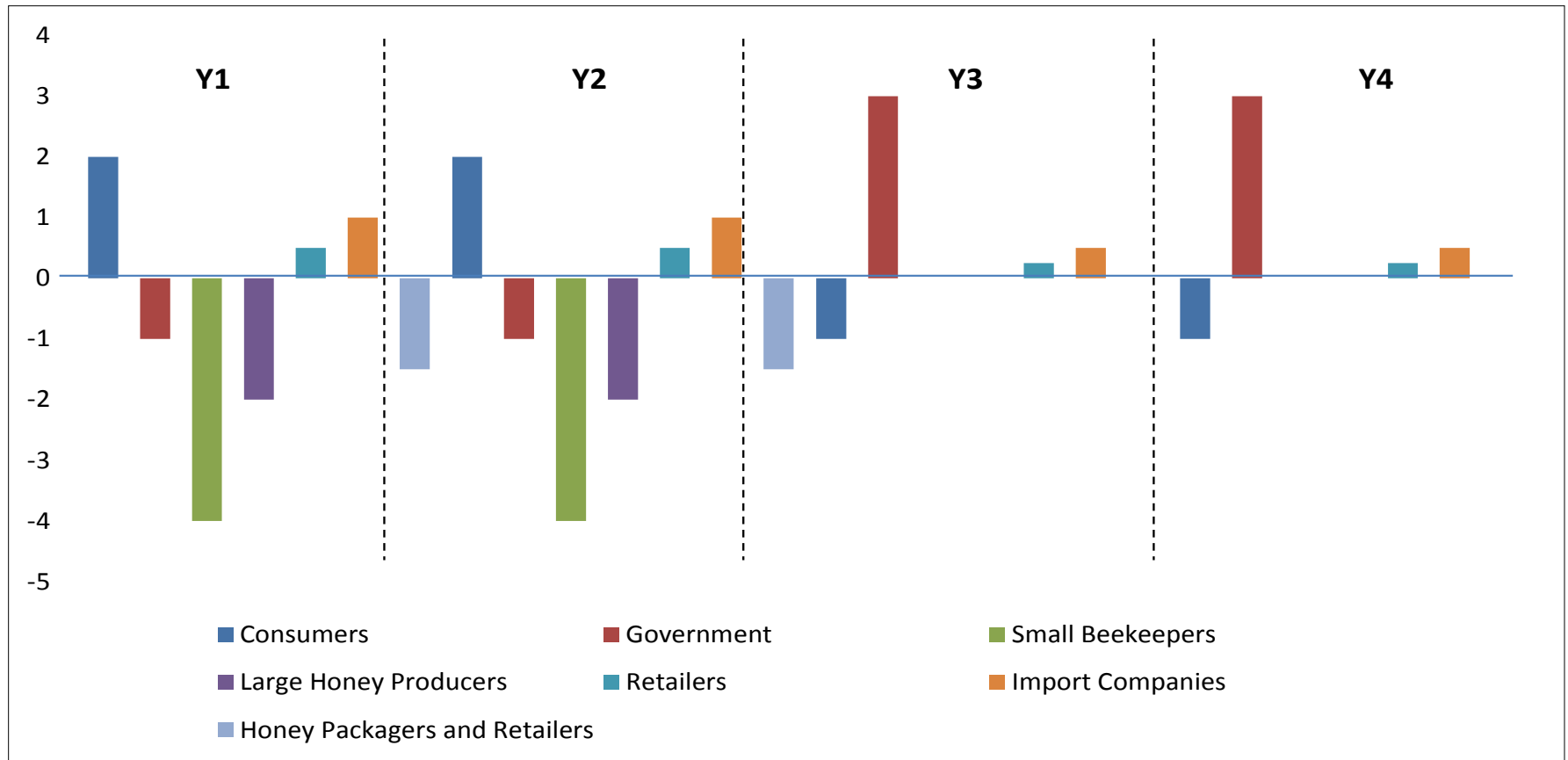
Net Cost and benefit summary:

Cost Bearers	Net Cost - Benefit Short term	Net Cost - Benefit Long term
Consumers	2	-1
Government	-1	3
Small Beekeepers	-4	0
Large Honey Producers	-2	0
Retailers	0.5	0.25
Import Companies	1	0.5
Honey Packagers and Retailers	-1.5	0
Net	-5	2.75
Cost / Benefit Ratio	0.4	3.75

Honey case study

RIA study:

Net Cost and benefit summary:



Honey case study

RIA study:

Conclusion:

- 1- Consumers: primary beneficiaries**
- 2- Government: prime beneficiary**
- 3- Small beekeepers: competition with imported products.**

In parallel to the introduction of the proposed standard, efforts are imperative to improve the productivity growth and reduce the unit cost of production to improve the competitiveness of the honey sector, to compete with international produce.

Thank you for your attention!